

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /127 W
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R 261425Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8331

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CY

SUBJECT: MARCH 25 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

1. OBSERVANCE OF MARCH 25 GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PASSED QUIETLY, AND, WITH EXCEPTION PARA 3 BELOW, UN-EVENTFULLY. MILITARY PARADES AGAIN CANCELLED THIS YEAR (FOR BOTH MARCH 25 AND APRIL 1 EOKA DAY), BUT MAKARIOS AND DIGNITARIES REVIEWED CIVILIAN PARADE OF SCHOOL-CHILDREN AS USUAL. SIZE OF CROWDS SEEMED SMALLER, MOOD LESS ENTHUSIASTIC THAN IN PAST ANNIVERSARIES. STANDARD ENOSIST SPEECHES AND EDITS.

2. ONLY INCIDENT OF NOTE WAS PRESIDENTIAL GUARD'S "ARREST" (REF FBIS 260933Z) OF SOME 60 NATIONAL GUARDSMEN WHO REPORTEDLY SHOUTED PRO-ENOSIS/PRO-GRIVAS SLOGANS DURING FLAG-LOWERING CEREMONY IN FRONT OF ARCHBISHOPRIC. PAPERS RELATE THAT UNIT COMMANDER (MAINLAND GREEK 2ND LIEUTENANT) APOLOGIZED TO

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MAKARIOS, AND NATIONAL GUARDSMEN RELEASED AFTER REPRESENTATIONS

BY GENERAL DENISIS.

3. COMMENT: WE WILL HEAR MORE FROM THIS INCIDENT, PARTICULARLY
IF TRU SECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL GUARD INVOLVED IN ARREST OF
NATIONAL GUARDSMEN.
GRANT

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